

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-27 (cancelled)

Claim 28 (currently amended): A semisolid ophthalmic composition comprising:

- 1) an ophthalmic drug;
- 2) an ointment base; and
- 3) an agent for dispersing and/or dissolving said drug in the ointment base, selected from a poly(ethylene-glycol), ~~a polyethoxylated castor oil, an alcohol having 12-20 carbon atoms and mixtures thereof.~~

Claim 29 (previously presented): The composition according to Claim 28, wherein the ointment base comprises:

- (a) a natural wax;
- (b) a petroleum wax;
- (c) a hydrocarbon; or
- (d) a combination of two or more of such components.

Claim 30 (previously presented): The composition according to Claim 29, wherein the natural wax is selected from white bees wax, yellow bees wax, a carnauba wax, a wool wax (wool fat), a purified lanolin and an anhydrous lanolin, the petroleum wax is selected from a hard paraffin and a microcrystalline wax, and the hydrocarbon is selected from a liquid paraffin, a white soft paraffin, a yellow soft paraffin, a white petrolatum and a yellow petrolatum.

Claim 31 (previously presented): The composition according to Claim 29, wherein the ointment base comprises a combination of:

- (a) a natural wax; and
- (c) a hydrocarbon.

Claim 32 (previously presented): The composition according to Claim 31, wherein the composition further comprises a liquid paraffin.

Claim 33 (previously presented): The composition according to Claim 32, wherein the natural wax is a wool wax (wool fat) and the hydrocarbon is a soft paraffin or a petrolatum.

Claim 34 (currently amended): The composition according to Claim 33, wherein the ointment base comprises:

- (a) 5-17 parts by weight of the ointment base of wool fat;
- (c1) 50-65 parts by weight of the ointment base of white petrolatum; and
- (c2) 20-35 parts by weight of the ointment base of liquid paraffin.

Claim 35 (canceled)

Claim 36 (canceled)

Claim 37 (currently amended): The composition according to Claim ~~2835~~, wherein the poly(ethylene-glycol) has the formula $H-(OCH_2-CH_2)_nOH$, wherein n is a number from about 6 to about 22.

Claim 38 (currently amended): The composition according to Claim ~~3735~~, wherein n is a number from about 6 to about 13.

Claim 39 (currently amended): The composition according to Claim ~~3735~~, wherein n is a number from about 8.5 to about 9.

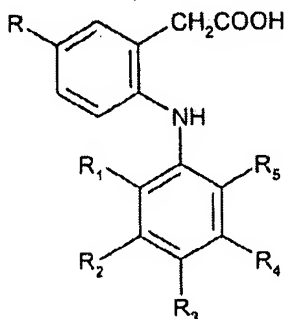
Claim 40 (canceled)

Claim 41 (canceled)

Claim 42 (previously presented): The composition according to Claim 28, wherein the agent for dispersing and/or dissolving the ophthalmic drug in the ointment base is used in amounts of 1-20% by weight of the composition.

Claim 43 (previously presented): The composition according to Claim 28, wherein the ophthalmic drug is selected from:

1) a COX-2 inhibitor of the formula



wherein

R is methyl or ethyl;

R₁ is chloro or fluoro;

R₂ is hydrogen or fluoro;

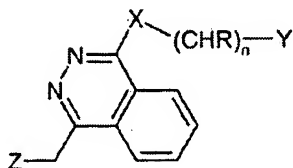
R₃ is hydrogen, fluoro, chloro, methyl, ethyl, methoxy, ethoxy or hydroxy;

R₄ is hydrogen or fluoro; and

R₅ is chloro, fluoro, trifluoromethyl or methyl,

an ophthalmically acceptable salt thereof; or an ophthalmically acceptable prodrug ester thereof;

2) a compound of the formula



wherein

n is 0-2;

R is H or lower alkyl;

X is imino, oxa or thia;

Y is aryl; and

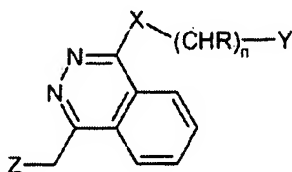
Z is unsubstituted or substituted pyridyl;

or an N-oxide of the defined compound, wherein one or more N atoms carry an oxygen atom, or an ophthalmically acceptable salt thereof;

3) an ascomycin; or

4) a staurosporine derivative.

Claim 44 (withdrawn): The composition according to Claim 43, wherein the compound of the following formula



wherein

n is 0-2;

R is H or lower alkyl;

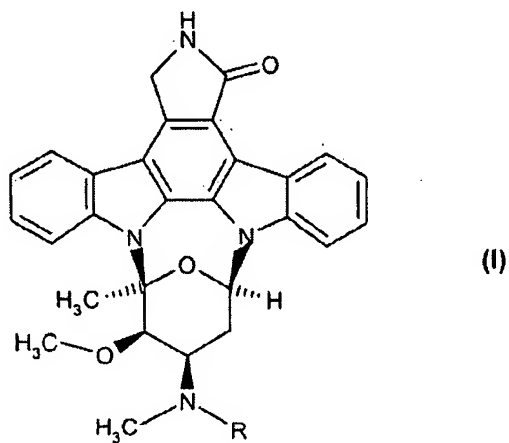
X is imino, oxa or thia;

Y is aryl; and

Z is unsubstituted or substituted pyridyl,

or an *N*-oxide of the defined compound, wherein one or more *N* atoms carry an oxygen atom, is 1-(3-chloroaniline)-4-(4-pyridylmethyl)phthalazine.

Claim 45 (previously presented): The composition according to Claim 43, wherein the staurosporine derivative is of formula (I)



wherein

R is a hydrocarbyl radical or an acyl radical;

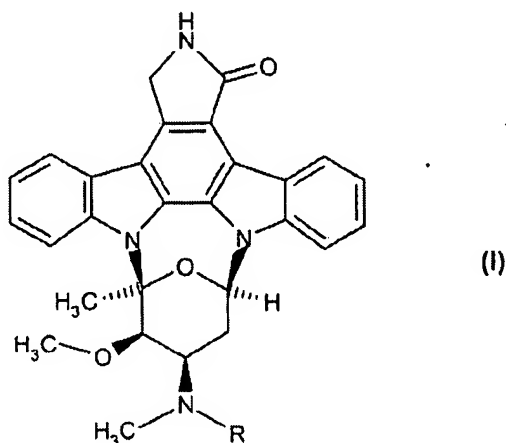
or an ophthalmically acceptable salt thereof.

Claim 46 (previously presented): The composition according to Claim 45, wherein R is benzoyl.

Claim 47 (previously presented): The composition according to Claim 28, further comprising either a preservative, an antioxidant or combinations thereof.

Claim 48 (previously presented): The composition according to Claim 47, comprising:

- 1) an ophthalmic drug, wherein the ophthalmic drug is a staurosporine derivative of formula (I)



wherein R is benzoyl;

- 2) an ointment base comprising a combination of
 - a) a wool wax (wool fat); and
 - b) a white petrolatum, in combination with a liquid paraffin;
- 3) an agent for dispersing and/or dissolving the drug in the ointment base selected from a poly(ethylene-glycol) and a mixture of a poly(ethylene-glycol) and a polyethoxylated castor oil; and optionally
- 4) a preservative; and
- 5) an antioxidant.

Claim 49 (previously presented): The composition according to Claim 48, comprising:

- 1) 0.1-4 of a staurosporine derivative of formula (I), wherein R is benzoyl;
- 2) an ointment base, essentially consisting of a combination of:
 - (a) 5-17% of wool fat;
 - (c1) 50-65% of white petrolatum; and
 - (c2) 20-35 percent of liquid paraffin;
- 3) 1-10% of an agent for dispersing and/or dissolving the drug in the ointment base essentially consisting of a poly(ethylene-glycol), optionally in combination with a polyethoxylated castor oil; and
- 4) 0.01-2% of a preservative;
- 5) 0.01-2% of an antioxidant,

wherein all percentages relate to the total weight of the components 1) to 5).

Claim 50 (withdrawn): A method for the treatment and/or prevention of human ocular neovascular diseases comprising topically administering a composition comprising a staurosporine derivative according to Claim 45 to the ocular surface.

Claim 51 (withdrawn): The method according to Claim 50, wherein the ocular neovascular diseases are selected from age-related macular degeneration, diabetic macular edema or proliferative diabetic retinopathy.

Claim 52 (withdrawn): A method for treating an inflammatory disease comprising topically administering a composition comprising ascomycin according to Claim 45 to the skin of a patient in need thereof.

Claim 53 (withdrawn): The method of Claim 52, wherein the inflammatory disease is blepharitis.